THE PACIFIC

## ammercial Advertiser.

at Development of the English Language.

este Delinered before the Honolulu Lyceum, March 1 1852 -BY PROFESSOR ALEXANDER.)

abst lately that we have learned that every lanhe s life of its own, and that a history of that on be written as complete, and to some minds eing as the biography of a hero or marter. se follows in this respect the analogy of all mates from the divine mind of man. Histowritten now, not only of wars and diplomacy to of civilizations, of art, of literature, and of language itself. All these manifestations of can mind share in the same onward movether unfold themselves by laws of development as these that govern the growth of a plant or est of a planet. Can we indeed believe in a Suintelligence, in an All-Wise Providence, withbelieving that there is, if not as evident, yet I an order in the development of humanity as of inanimate nature? But it is not with man the Inferior creation, where there are change at progress, always returning in the same circle l immutable forms. The bee gathers honey in allers to-day, in the same exquisite cells that all in the far East in the days of the lion-slayer, skill has no progress nor history. The nightsings yet the same liquid notes that "close the day," but man does not speak now as he did the Deluge, his words; of to-day are not the of yesterday. And this results from the very

of lunguage. We must banish from our the ides that there is anything conventional hirary shout language, or that it is an invention prisace of man. History proves that no huover can create a language or even, we might sy, a single word. The dialect of the rudest is as complete and philosophical a grammar uniy cultivated languages of Europe. Lanbe we conclude, is a gift from the Almighty. at the Creator taught men words as man ale dictionary or grammar. No! Lanother a power, a faculty, implanted in the thought, which unfolds itself, according to ss, as objects in the outer world present them-

me, then, is not manufactured but grows. to the esprice of the builder, but like a livfeely and gracefully developing itself, ac-

wife senses, or the mutual relations of these

ingages were treated very much as plants miel by the earlier botanists. With a Lintheir pocket, they would gather the tender of Flora into their huge maps, dry and them at home, and finally deposit them well of pastel in their splendid but lifeless herba-Their whole wisdom was expended in the and nomenclature of this ingeniously thy. But a better day has dawned, both my and philology. We are learning to aris not merely as lifeless material, but as overs, and thus the study of language is bes noble science, a branch of the study of man

since language is the embodiment of thought. is the mind of the people that speak it. It is and representative, so to speak, of the mind e. Hence, as has well been said, "there is at fatures of their history, all are reflected in

less that the history of the English language commily be, to a great cotent, the history of

that place, the English language is not the stad original tongue of the British Islands, ick, and till they have finally assigned to it tet merely in respect of that small group around it, but in respect to all the lanof the earth. Fascinating as such studies require an immense apparatus of books, denotion of a life time, to follow them up to

wit to say, in general terms, that three great successive waves of migration, have swept othern and Central Europe.

of a period before the earliest dawn of his e (eitic race descended from the highlands of occupied a large part of Europe, including ish islands, as is shown by the names of the centains and rivers. "They had an alphabet, IJ, a priestly caste, and an Oriental creed." the German tribes entered Europe about 700 they peopled Denmark, Scandinavia, and Europe; they destroyed and reorganized the apire; as Franks, they conquered Gaul and sdit France; as Anglo-Saxons they conquered and changed its name to England, or Angle-The last stream of population from the East is and to grasp the scepter of Europe with its

mmark and Holland, comprising the prov-Hanover and Westphalia, and crossed over ing the fourth and fifth centuries. had governed Britain for five centuries, ag colonies, such as Lincoln, which is a corof the Latin name "Lindi Colonia," and pared roads, walls and intrenched camps wa by the numerous names of towns ending or chester, a corruption of the Latin castra Ats borehester, "the camp of Dorn," Leiceshe camp of Leir," &c. But the Roman genard had news from Italy, and worse and worse ar, till at last they made the Britons a part-

ent of walls, forts and munitions of war, and taslaved Britons, and when the fierce Picts the Picts and Scote. They are a liking for the country, laving

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of their countrymen to join them, and became conquerors and masters of the Britons.

This whole period belongs to that twilight borderland of histery and fiction in which we place the siege of Troy and the early Roman kings. The beautiful romances and songs which treat of Prince Arthur, the British hero, and the Knights of the Round Table, have little or no basis in history. This much is certain, that the contest was long and desperate, and that the Celts disputed every foot of ground with determined bravery. It was not till six generations had (Successor to R. Coady & Co...) Shipping and Commission Mer chant, Honolulu, Sandwich Islands. Celtic aborigines into Wales and Brittany, and substituted their own plain, energetic language for the Welsh, spoken by the Britons.

Scarcely had the Saxons become, nominally at least, converted to Christianity and begun to make some advance in civilization, when a second swarm of pirates, of the same Germanic stock, descended from Norway and Denmark upon the English coast. They were daring seamen, of great physical prowess, and seemed to consider homicide and arson "the chief Scarcely had the Saxons become, nominally at end of man." Such was the terror they inspired, that in the daily church service was inserted the prayer, From the fury of the Northmen, good Lord deliver They were pagans as late as the eleventh century. For three hundred years they occupied all North of England, including Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Cumberland and Westmoreland-Under Canute the Great, they conquered the whole of England, and united the crowns of England, Scotland, Denmark and Norway in one monarchy. This dynasty, however, lasted only thirty years, and the Saxon line was restored in the person of Edward the Confessor. The two nations, Danes and Saxons, appear to have been blended together to a considerable extent, as were their languages, which were in fact but different dialects of one wide-spread language. The traces of the Danes or Northmen are chiefly found in local names, and in the Scotch dialect. For example, the termination by in names of places is Danish, and means town, Derby being Deer-town, Whitby, Whitetown, &c. Now the distribution of these names on the opposite shores of England, and on its northern extremity, shows how the stream of northern migration went round the island rather than across it. This is one example out of many to show the light which the study of language throws on history.

During this turbulent period, Saxon literature was C. L. RICHARDS. ore flourishing than might be expected from the rude and illiterate condition of the people. This Ship Chandlers, Commission Merchants, and dealers in General literature consists of poems, chronicles, religious treatises and translations of the Bible. Does it not speak volumes in honor of that people, that they translated the Bible into the vernacular, more frequently and fully than any other nation of that day or long afterwards? The great Alfred himself, who, take him all in all, was the noblest monarch that ever sat upon the throne of England, translated into the Saxon many works of Christian or pagan wisdom. The writings of the venerable Bede, of Aelfric, the poet Caedmon and others, exhibit a love of truth, as well as a spirit of freedom and independence of which we may justly be proud.

But Providence was preparing to prostrate both Saxon and Dane at the feet of a third branch of the same Germanic family, and thus to infuse a new and aspiring element into the blood and language of Eng-

Just one hundred and sixty years before, a body of Norwegian freebooters had intimidated the feeble French monarch into a treaty by which Neustria and Brittany, henceforth known as Normandy, were ceded to them, on condition that Rollo, their leader, should be baptized and become a feudal vassal of the king. They had embraced Christianity, and Ship Chandler, Dealer in General Merchandise, and Commission exchanged their own language for the Romance or barbarous Latin, which was spoken by the Franks and by their new spiritual guides, and which forms the basis of modern French. With the language, they Tr Money advanced for whalers' bills at the lowest rates. had learned all and more than all the civilization of

They were at this time the bravest and most energetic people in Europe. A handful of Normans had just conquered Naples and founded the kingdom of the two Sicilies, and at a later period they bore off the palm for valor and chivalry in the first Crusade. Tancred, the hero of Tasso's Jerusalem Delivered, and Richard of the Lion Heart, were both Normans. "In all chivalrous qualities," says Prof. Creasy in his Fifteen Decisive Buttles of the World, "in almost idolatrous respect to ladies of gentle birth, in fondness for the rising poetry of the time, in architectural magnificence, and in all courtly refinement and splendor the Normans were the foremost race in the world. But these high qualities were darkened by pride, cruelty and a brutal contempt for the rights and feel-

ings of all whom they considered the lower classes." William the Conqueror, seventh duke of Normandy, now laid claim to the English crown, by virtue of the will of his uncle, Edward the Confessor, King of England, in which, as was alleged, he had been nominated as his successor, and also by virtue of a sol-emn judgment by his Holiness, the Pope. Having assembled an army of sixty thousand picked men, composed not merely of Normans, but of military adventurers from every part of Christendom, he crossed the channel, and landed at Hastings in the year 1066, A. D. The superiority of the Normans in arms and discipline, added to the good fortune of the great and decisive victory at Hastings, the English Water-loo, soon laid England at the feet of the Conqueror.

Never has history recorded a more complete and nerciless subjugation of one nation to another than followed the conquest. The whole land was divided among King William's followers, without reserve of any of the estates of Saxon nobles or freemen, while all, even the most petty offices, were filled by Normans. The Saxon clergy did not escape the general spoliation, but every abbey and bishopric were filled with French dignitaries. Insult and cruelty were added to oppression, the very name of Englishmen Ger was turned into a repreach, and centuries elapsed before a single family of Saxon blood could aspire to the

I dwell on this period because it is the turning point in English history, and because it was the union of these two races and languages that produced the Thierry, in spite of the degradation and misery which
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Thierry in spite of the degradation and misery which the degradation and misery the conquest brought upon the Saxons, it must be ac-knowledged that it was the making of England. It infused into the duller Saxon race a new fire and

side, the one the language of the masters at court and castle, the other the language of the serf and outlaw, spoken only in the lowly hut of the Saxon. Few of us realize that for centuries the English

Government was entirely French. The English kings for four generations were born and educated in France, their ordinary speech was French, and all offices in their gift were filled by Frenchmen. The Norman-French for four centuries was the official language of England—spoken by king, bishops, nobles and "gentlemen." Power, rank, wealth, influence, fashion, all conspired to suppress the tongue of the conquered race. The literaure, the romances of the period were in Norman-French. The laws and the pleading in the courts continued to be in French for more than four centuries. In fact, parliamentary formulas still preserve the idiom of the conquest. The royal assent of the British sovereign to bilis that have passed parliament is given in French—to public bills, "La Reine le vein," to private bills, "Soit fait comme il est désiré," &c. So, too, the unmeaning cry "O yes! O yes!" with which, even in the backwoods of America, the sheriff or beadle proclaims silence in court, is Norman-French for "Hear! Hear!" having come down to us, across an interval of 800 years, from William the Conqueror. Even in the grammar schools and universities the pupils were obliged to construe from Latin into French.

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Ionolulu, August 12, 1857.

HONOLULU, HAWAHAN ISLANDS, MARCH 17, 1859.

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ACRES, containing 5000 Coffee Trees and 20 Orange
Trees; also, peach, fig, Am. apple, cherimoya and other

The above Land is for sale. Apply to 136-5m\* J. M. WHITTIER, on the Piace. FOR SALE. THE DWELLING HOUSE ON KUKUI

reet, occupied by Mr. Daniel Foster, opposite the resi sence of F. L. Hanks, Esq. Apply to A. P. EVERETT. FOR SALE. THE HOUSE AND LOT SITUATED ON Waikiki Plains, at present occupied by the undersigned.

Terms liberal. Apply at this Office, or to

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THE SUBSCRIBERS would inform their friends, Shipmasters, and the public generally, that they will be happy, at all times, to greet them at their New Shop on corner of Bethel and King streets. All orders with which they may be favored, will be thankfully received and promptly attended to. PARTICULAR ATTENTION PAID TO GUAGING. 4

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W. J. RAWLINS & CO., A RE THANKFUL FOR PAST FAVORS, and are prepared, with their present improvements, to suppl merchants and families with hard and soft soap; also, 17 And always ready to buy or trade for tallow, slush, and

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MENRY SMITH, SHIPSMITH AND GENERAL BLACKSMITH,

WOULD RETURN HIS THANKS FOR former patronage received while at his old shop e the Custom House, and at the same time notify Ships Messrs. Buans & Emmes, shipwrights, formerly occupied by Captain Brown, where he is prepared to execute all kinds of work in his line on the most reasonable terms, in a workman-

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OPPOSITE THE CUSTOM HOUSE, THE ABOVE HAVING PURCHASED

the premises fermerly occupied by M. M. Matthews, are now prepared to execute Ship, Carriage and Cart Work, on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms, and hope by strict attention to business to merit a share of the public patronage heretoffer so liberally bestowed. 105-tf CABINET-MAKING

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING ENGAGed the services of an experienced Upholsterer, is now pre-pared to make to order Spring Beds, Hair, Pulu and Hay Mat-tresses, Spring Lounges, &c. Old Sofas, Lounges, Ottomans and Chairs repaired and re-covered on reasonable terms. Furniture of all kinds made to order. Koa, black walnut, pine and lead Coffins constantly on hand and made to order. CHAS. W. FOX, Cabinet-maker,

THE UNDERSIGNED is now prepared to repair or manufacture all kinds of machinery, mill gearing, wind ass gearing, ship forgings and smith work. Cart boxes, forge backs, anvils &c. on hand and made to Iron and and best quality of smith's coal for sale.

Also one excellent small sized sugar mill with copper train complete, adapted to either horse or water power.

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JUST RECENTED! The Celebrated Adelphi Biscuits! CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ASsortment: Abernethy, Cracknel, Picnic, Tea, Cabin, Soda
and Fancy. Also, Mnckie's Edinburgh Biscuits,
consisting of machine, Queen, ginger, picnic and Windsor. Also,
the following Groceries: York hams, English cheese, Carolina rice, China rice, loaf and crushed sugar, codfish, raisins,
currants, citron peel, shelled almonds, patent sperm candles,
Jenny Lind cakes, sardines, H I. Baker's oysters, California onlons, and jumbles. Constantly on hand a general assortment of
Groceries. N. B.—Fresh Ground Coffee constantly on hand. 124-tf MOSSMAN & SON.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE REMAIN
ing on hand the following articles of Regalia, which will be
losed out at extremely low prices:

12 sets Master Mason's, at \$6 to \$15.

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ENGLISH STATIONERY. THE UNDERSIGNED has just received per "Por tena," from Liverpool, a nice assortment of superior JUST RECEIVED.

PER SYREN-CASES 4-4 BLEACHED
Sheetings—extra fine quality. For sale by
C. A. & H. P. POOR. ONE BOSTON PANNING MILL-For sale by

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A STORE TO LET, IN KING STREET, NEARLY OPPO-site the Bethel, size 25 by 30 feet. The front may be al-tered as required for the occupant. Rent moderate,

TO LET ! At a Moderate Rent! THOSE DESIRABLE PREMISES ON

Kukni street, belonging to the beirs of W. H. Stuart, and lately occupied by Chs. A. Poor, Esq., will be leased on favorable terms. The house contains a parlor, two bed rooms, dining room, bath room, servant's room, pantry and kitchen, and water laid on from the government pipes.

The house will be painted and put in complete repair before occupation. Apply to [133-tf] C. A. & H. F. POOR. TO LET AT LAHAINA. THE STORE BELONGING TO MR. I.

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flour mill. Possession given the 1st of May.
3-tf Inquire of R. GILLILAND.

FOR SALE OR TO LET, THAT LARGE AND COMMODI-ous DWELLING HOUSE on Kukul street, now The House is nearly new, and on

Parlor, 22 feet by 22 feet.
Dining Room, 14 by 22 feet.
Five Sleeping Rooms,
Dressing Room, Pantry, Store Room,
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And supplied with water from the Government Pipes.
The Lot is 75 feet frontage, with a depth of about 300 feet, and contains a variety of Shade and Ornamental Trees.

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TO LET. THE FOLLOWING ROOMS AND OFfices in the FIRE PROOF BRICK BUILDING, corner of
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The office on the second floor, directly over the Savings Bank.
The Cellar of the above building, capable of storage of 1500 ssion given immediately. Terms moderate. Apply to CHAS, BREWER, 2D.

ALL THOSE WELL ENCLOSED PREmises heretofore occupied by G. W. Macy as a private residence, adjoining Mr. Montgomery's garden, on Smith Bridge, and eight minutes' walk of the wharf. The houses consist of a large parlor, with a splendid view of Nunanu Valley, a dining room, four good bed rooms, pantry, cook house and well. The garden is well stocked with fruit trees, and the situation is cool, picturesque and salubrious. A family will find it a most desirable residence. Inquire of JOHN MONTGOMERY.

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THE FORETOP PREMISES ON KING street. Terms liberal. Apply to
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THE TWO STORES RECENTLY erected in Fort street, between King and Merchant sts. Parties wishing to lease can have them fitted to suit by early application. For terms, please apply to 64-tf B. F. SNOW. TO BE SOLD OR LET .- A LARGE AND commodious residence in Nuuanu Valley, about a mile and a half-from town. Terms moderate. Apply to lulu, July 1, 1-tf W. L. GREEN.

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